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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/581,269	11/10/2000	Paul Gothard Knutson	RCA88795	2386

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Thomson Multimedia Licensing Inc
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EXAMINER

SHARMA, SUJATHA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2681

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/581,269

Applicant(s)

KNUTSON ET AL.

Examiner

Sujatha Sharma

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10. 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35

U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-8, 10-17 and 19-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chien [US 6,308,062].

Regarding claims 1,10 and 19, Chien discloses a wireless telephony system enabling access to PC based functionalities. Chien further discloses system with plurality of wireless handsets (15 in Fig.1) with wireless transceiver to communicate wirelessly with the base unit/radio fixed part (20 in Fig.1). Chien further discloses an interface (125 in Fig.2) in the ASIC 120 for interfacing

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with an external computer (10 in Fig.1) and further a processor to perform the telephone functions such as routing of calls. The reference particularly does not disclose the use of a phone call linear combiner for selectively combining and routing phone calls (such as in conference calls). However the use of a phone call linear combiner is inherent since in a multiplexing environment (see col.3, lines 15-21) the signals have to be combined especially in order to make conference calls and routing of calls. See col.6, lines 1-27. Chien further discloses a CPU 40 in the personal computer which when interfaced with the fixed part can interact with the processor in the fixed part for changing system configuration. See summary of invention, Fig.1, Fig.4, col.1, lines 39-49, lines 62-67, col.3, lines 15-30, col. 4, lines 37, col.5, lines 6-49 and col.6, lines 1-40.

Regarding claims 2,11 and 20, Chien further discloses a voice data buffer 140. See Fig.2.

Regarding claims 3,12 and 21, Chien further discloses a controller (65 in Fig.2) for controlling functions such as combining of voice signals. See col.3, lines 15-40.

Regarding claims 4,13 and 22, Chien further discloses a method for selective combining and routing of calls (such as in conference calls). See col.5, lines 45-49, col.6, lines 1-27 and Fig.2.

Regarding claims 5,14 and 23, Chien further discloses a RAM in the base unit for storing system configuration data received from the external computer. See Fig.4 and col.4, lines 49-60.

Regarding claims 6,15 and 24, Chien further discloses a method of setting up conference calls using an external computer, which indicates the handsets, to be added to the conference call. See col.5, line60-col.6, line 18.

Regarding claims 7 and 16, Chien discloses a TDMA technology for communication between the base unit and the handset. See col.3, lines 15-30.

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Regarding claims 8 and 17, Chien further discloses the interface and the external port coupled to the interface have sufficient bandwidth to support the provided features. See col.3, lines 5-14.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 9,18 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chien [US 6,308,062] in view of Lee [US 6,198,925].

Regarding claims 9,18,25, Chien as treated in claims 1, 10, and 19 discloses all the limitations as claimed. However Chien does not disclose the method of adding another interface to the base station under the control of the computer to expand the overall system size.

Lee in the same endeavor teaches a method of increasing the capacity of a cellular system where the base station is connected to the base station controller/computer. Lee shows a method where the omni sector 102 is sectorized by adding 3 interfaces 104,106,108 to expand the capacity but still under the control of the same base station controller. See Figs 1-3 and summary of invention.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to provide the teachings of Lee to Chien in order to reduce interference and increase the capacity of the system.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Arends [US 5,909,432] discloses a digital cordless telephony system, a radio base station and a combination of a radio base station and a cordless handset.

Weigand [US 5,528,666] discloses a personal phone expansion system.

Mohr [US 6,449,487] discloses a computerized telephone apparatus.

Yoshida [US 5,949,764] discloses a conference call on a personal handy phone system portable station.

Fuller [US 4,893,335] discloses a remote access telephone control system.

Nishimura [US 4,661,659] discloses a wireless phone system communicatively combined with a computer.

Lancelot [US 6,026,086] discloses an apparatus, system and method for a unified circuit switched and packet-based communication system architecture with network interworking functionality.

Klose [US 4,809,262] discloses a method of making conference call connections in computer-controlled digital telephone exchange.

Orlemans [US 5,805,692] discloses a PABX system with transparent computer supported telecommunications applications (CSTA) functionality.

Newton's telecom dictionary - by Harry Newton page 306.

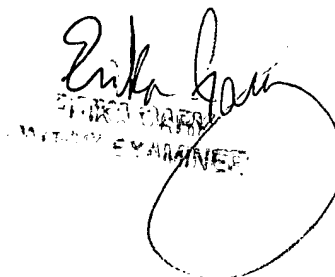
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sujatha Sharma whose telephone number is 703-305-5298. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7.30am - 4.00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached on 703-305-4778. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned and for all official communications is 703-872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3800.

Sujatha Sharma
May 22, 2003



The block contains a handwritten signature, likely of Sujatha Sharma, written in cursive. Below the signature is a circular stamp. The text within the stamp is partially obscured by the signature but appears to include the words "EXAMINER" and "MAY 22 2003".